

BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

**WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL
WORK EXAMINERS,
Complainant,**

v.

Case No: AG-0908-0901

**AMY FAITH GOODE,
Licensed Social Worker
Licensed Number: AP00943084
Respondent.**

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

After due investigation of a written complaint, the West Virginia Board of Social Work Examiners (hereinafter "Board") determined that there was probable cause to believe that Amy Faith Goode (hereinafter "Respondent") has exhibited unprofessional and unethical conduct in the practice of social work, in violation of the provisions of W. Va. Code § 30-30-1 *et seq.* and the Rules of the Board, 25 C.S.R. § 1 *et seq.* The Respondent was provided with written notice of the allegations against her pursuant to the rules of the Board and the laws of this State.

Now, in lieu of hearing, the parties have reached an agreement for the resolution of this case matter and the parties agree to entry of the following Order in disposition of this matter.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board adopts the following findings in this matter:

1. That the Board is a State entity created by W. Va. Code § 30-30-1 *et seq.* and is empowered to regulate the practice of social work.
2. That the Respondent, Amy Faith Goode, is a licensee of the Board, possessing License No. AP00943084, and is therefore subject to the license requirements of said Board.
3. That the Board is empowered to investigate allegations of unprofessional or unethical conduct and to suspend, restrict, revoke or refuse to issue a license to practice social work under the authority granted to it by W. Va. Code § 30-30-1 *et seq.*
4. That Respondent was, at all times material hereto, employed as a Family Service Specialist with KVC Behavioral Health Care.
5. That on May 27, 2008, the Board received a Complaint from KVC Behavioral Health Care (hereinafter "KVC") against the Respondent for billing for services that had not been provided and then falsifying client's records and billing statements in order to bill for these services.
6. That the Respondent provided parenting services to clients as a Family Service Specialist with KVC.
7. That KVC met with the Respondent in April 2008, wherein the Respondent admitted that she had not provided three (3) hours of parenting services to client, A.M. on April 7, 2008, as billed.
8. That client, A.M., was actually being held in jail since April 1, 2008, which the Respondent was aware of at the time. Respondent then stated to KVC that she had actually met with the client, A.M., on March 31, 2008, but had failed to properly document her case notes on the actual day of the visit which was March 31, 2008; however, the Respondent eventually admitted that she

did not in fact see her client, A.M., but instead provided parenting services to a friend of the client on March 31, 2008.

9. That the Respondent falsified case notes reflecting a visit on April 7, 2008, for parenting services to client, A.M., which did not occur.

10. That upon completion of KVC's investigation the Respondent was terminated from KVC's employment on April 11, 2008.

11. That in the Respondent's response to the Complaint filed by KVC she states that she had been told by her supervisor that she could bill for providing parenting services to a friend of a client or family members. The supervisor responded in a letter to the Board dated August 21, 2008, denying any such conversation or billing practices at KVC. The supervisor supplied a signed copy of a statement wherein the Respondent acknowledges that she must have seen a client to actually have billed for any services provided for that client.

12. That the Board, after conducting an investigation, by vote at its September 25, 2008, meeting, made a finding of probable cause for multiple violations of the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics regarding the client's records, billing, and dishonesty and fraud.

13. That the Respondent's actions constitute a violation of the current Code of Ethics adopted by the Board, the Board's governing practice act, and that this violation of the Code of Ethics may be grounds for disciplinary action by the Board pursuant to W. Va. Code § 30-30-7 and 25 C.S.R. § 1-4.2.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. That the Board has jurisdiction to take disciplinary action against Respondent.

2. That based upon the allegations of unprofessional or unethical conduct set out above in the *Findings of Fact* section, the Board is authorized to suspend, revoke or otherwise restrict the license of the Respondent to practice social work, pursuant to W. Va. Code § 30-30-7.

3. That the Board has adopted the National Association of Social Workers Code of Ethics as its Code of Ethics pursuant to 25 C.S.R. § 1-4.1 and has defined professional negligence to include a licensed social worker's failure to comply with the Code of Ethics. Violations of this Code may be grounds for disciplinary action by the Board pursuant to 25 C.S.R. § 1-4.2.

CONSENT OF LICENSEE

I, Amy Faith Goode, by affixing my signature hereto, acknowledge the following:

1. That I have had the opportunity to consult with counsel and execute this Consent Agreement voluntarily, freely, without compulsion or duress and mindful that it has legal consequences.

2. That no person or entity has made any promise or given any inducement whatsoever to encourage me to make this settlement other than as set forth herein.

3. That I acknowledge that I am aware that I may pursue this matter through appropriate administrative and/or court proceedings, and I am aware of my legal rights regarding this matter, but intelligently, knowingly and voluntarily waive such rights.

4. That I waive any defenses including, but not limited to, laches, statute of limitations, and estoppel, that I may have otherwise claimed as a condition of this agreement.

5. That I admit that my actions were unprofessional and unethical and a violation of the statute and rules of the Board.

The Respondent, Amy Faith Goode, by affixing her signature hereon, agrees to the following:

ORDER

On the basis of the foregoing, the Board does hereby ORDER and DECREE that:

1. Respondent's license is hereby SUSPENDED for a period of six (6) months effective upon the entry date of this *Order* hereto.
2. During this six (6) month period of suspension the Respondent must complete the following requirements:
 - a. Respondent shall complete six (6) contact hours of West Virginia Board of Social Work Examiners approved continuing education in the area of social work and ethics. Respondent shall provide proof of completion to the Board. These six (6) contact hours are in addition to the standard requirement of fifty (50) contact hours that a licensee must complete for license renewal, and shall not be obtained via any online courses.
 - b. Respondent shall reimburse the Board for all of the administrative and legal expenses incurred by the Board in the investigation and disposition of this case within six (6) months of entry of this *Order*.
3. The Board is bound by agreement and by law to report the results of all disciplinary actions, including the instant matter, for posting in the Health Integrity Practitioners Data Bank through the Association of Social Work Boards.
4. That this document is a public record as defined in W. Va. Code § 29B-1-2(4).
5. This *Consent Agreement and Order* constitutes the entire agreement between the

parties.

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF
SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

By:

Rita Brown

Rita Brown, Chairperson

Entered:

03/12/2009

DATE

Agreed to by:

Amy Faith Goode

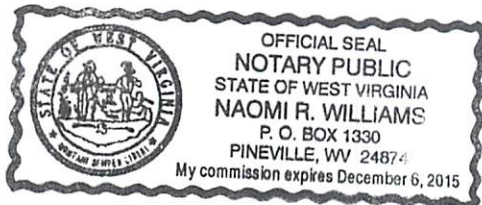
Amy Faith Goode, Respondent

3-9-09

DATE

Sworn and subscribed before me this 9th day of March, 2009.

My Commission expires: 12-6-2015



Naomi R Williams

Notary Public